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Someone Wrote A Poem About A Cow And Now Everyone Is Doing It

Respect iambic dimeter.



Rachael Krishna
BuzzFeed News Reporter

Posted on January 24, 2017 at 8:36 am



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In October last year, a now-deleted thread on Reddit asked health inspectors to share their worst experiences on the job. User Chamale told a story about his stepdad. In it, a health inspector catches a cow licking bread.

[-] Chamale 19.8k points 2 months ago

My stepdad used to be a baker in an authentic recreation of an 18th century New French fortress. Because they sell bread to the public, the health inspector came by, and she was ripping into my stepdad for violations like the stonework walls, the doorless entranceways or the lack of a mosquito zapper. He pointed out that they were following the highest standards except for things that would destroy the authenticity of this 18th-century bakery. The health inspector relented and agreed to give him a pass after verifying the food storage area was secure. They went to the shed, which was a doorless building attached to the bakery. As the health inspector went in, there happened to be an escaped cow licking all of the loaves. My stepdad could only say, "Honestly, this never happens." They passed the health inspection.

tl;dr: Health inspector witnesses escaped farm animal licking all the bread in a bakery, passes health inspection anyway

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In response, Poem_for_your_sprog, who writes poems in response to thread topics, wrote a poem about cows licking bread.

Health Inspectors of Reddit, what's the worst violation you've ever seen? by [deleted] in AskReddit

[-] Poem_for_your_sprog 32.5k points 2 months ago 🍷 x6

my name is Cow,
and wen its nite,
or wen the moon
is shiying brite,
and all the men
haf gon to bed -
i stay up late.
i lik the bred.

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According to [Meme Documentation](#), screenshots of the poem were shared to Tumblr shortly afterwards, but didn't really go further than that.

Something Almost Nice, Doused in Horror

Photo October 25, 2016 134,146 notes

ABOUT

[-] Chamale 6403 points 12 hours ago
My stepdad used to be a baker in an authentic recreation of an 18th century New French fortress. Because they sell bread to the public, the health inspector came by, and she was ripping into my stepdad for violations like the stonework walls, the doorless entranceways, or the lack of a mosquito zapper. He pointed out that they were following the highest standards except for things that would destroy the authenticity of this 18th-century bakery. The health inspector relented and agreed to give him a pass after verifying the food storage area was secure. They went to the shed, which was a doorless building attached to the bakery. As the health inspector went in, there happened to be an escaped cow licking all of the loaves. My stepdad could only say, "Honestly, this never happens." They passed the health inspection.

tldr: Health inspector witnesses escaped farm animal licking all the bread in a bakery, passes health inspection anyway

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[-] Poem_for_your_spring 6409 points 10 hours ago
my name is Cow,
and wen its nite,
or wen the moon
is shiyning brite,
and all the men
haf gon to bed -
i stay up late.
i lik the bred.

Tags: i am...overwhelmed by the need to share this



Chrissy, 20. I write them sad-like stories. I reblog a lot of Mob Psycho 100, Fullmetal Alchemist, Steven Universe, Danny Phantom, and awful memes. Original fandom posts are tagged with the show's full name. Reblogs are tagged with acronyms. I've been getting a huge influx of asks lately, so I'm very sorry if I don't get around to answering yours! (I probably saw it though, assuming tumblr didn't eat it) She/her pronouns.

phantomrose6.tumblr.com

A few weeks ago, the meme appeared again thanks to Tumblr user annleckie.



annleckie
venort

tumblr

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purrantula



my name is catte
and i hav found
that wen the moon
is big n round
the humans sleep
all nite in bed
and do not kis me
on my hed
so i can plot
my onle wish
to sumhow, sumday
eat the fish



annleekie

My name is cow
O feelyn pet.
Thoz littul fish
Ar hard to get.
But whyl the men
In darknes nap
Breds only sheeld
Is plastik rap.
So put thoz fish thawts
From yur hed.
And do lyk me.
I lik the bred.

13,454 notes



And now the meme is everywhere. Some users have stuck to the theme of cows.



duncheon

tumblr

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My name is cow And in the day Tu wish him well Wen he go play With tender hart And gentle tung I bid farewell I lik my son

#my contribution #i lik the bred

26,356 notes



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@31122

my name is Cow; wen man with sheeld with hevy tred disturbs my feeld, i feer no stycke, i do not stop – i lowr my h... <https://t.co/G3M3Te9rjl>

02:33 AM - 23 Jan 2017

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Others have written about different animals.



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My name is byrd And wen it day Or wen the sun A shiyning ray I donut take A single rest I sit in shirt I gard the chest

#i lik the bred #meme #poem #mango #sun conure #birblr

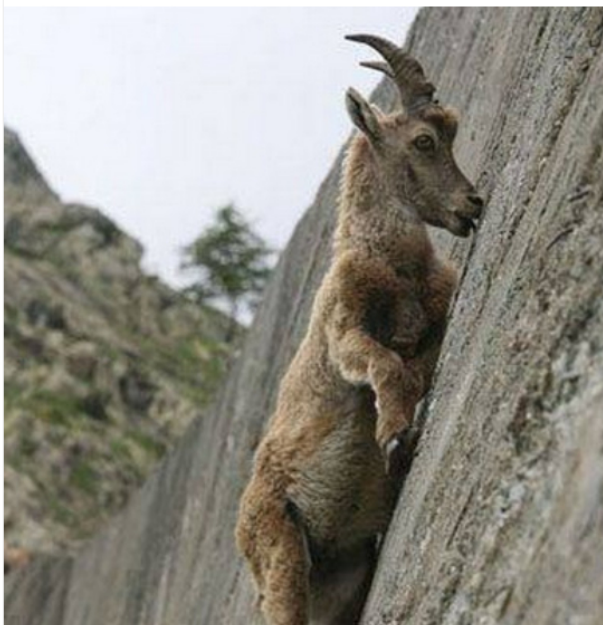
4,387 notes



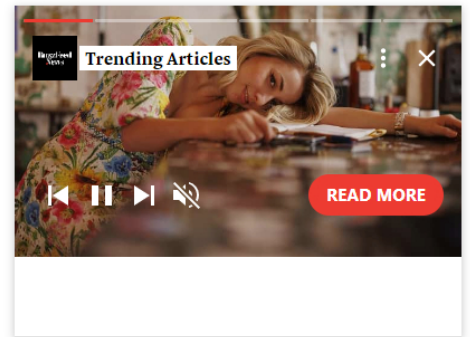
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my nayme is goat



and on the grownde
gud minerales
can not be fownde

but up the cliffe
with hooves I crawle
i clime up hiye

i lik the wall

#sorry guys #has this already been done? #i lik the bred
#i lik the bred meme #crave that mineral

13,072 notes



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Some have even incorporated the style of the poem into their own fandom or interests.



breakfastautocrat

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sir if yu ples
let me gow fre
ill tel yu wye
this cayme to bee
my sisters kydde
was almost ded
and that is wye
i stol the bred

#silliness #les mis #les misérables #jean valjean
#i lik the bred meme

12,476 notes



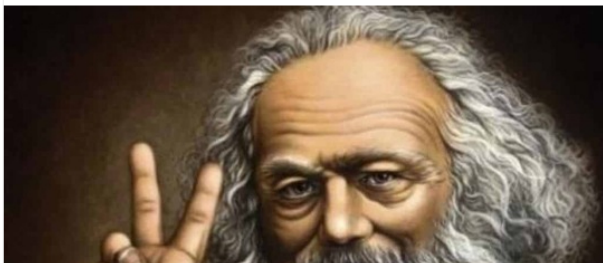
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*my name is marx,
and wen its late
and plebs r crying
thro off teh state
and kapitalism
it suks hed
wit peece and work
i lik the bred*

#i can haz revolution? #philosophy #philosophy memes
#philosophy shitposts #marxism #karl marx #marx
#communism #communist memes #i lik the bred ... See all

675 notes



The meme has inspired debate among Tumblr language enthusiasts, with users noting that the language in the poem is not "baby talk" but an emulation of Middle English. It has led to arguments over proper use of iambic dimeter.



krabbydon

tumblr

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The anatomy of a cow poem, or 'bredlik'

The poem is generally first person and begins with "My name is...", unless part of a series; series are structured as dialogues.

Cow poems are in strict iambic dimeter.

A cow poem has the scheme *A*A*B*B.

The cow stanza is a 6-line stanza followed by a 2-line 'punchline', varying on "I [do the thing]/I lick the [thing]; much like Benadryl Cabbagepatch, the closer the conformity, the better the effect.

Spelling is more-or-less phonetic, especially for vowels, with some exceptions (classical cow poems make exceptions for "I", notably) and certainly no numbers; the effect is often described as 'pseudo Chaucerian'. The grammar too is fairly standard.

Or to put it another way

My naym is pome
And wen you noe
The rouls that mayk
My strukchur floe
And poeits bend
Tou hone ther art

I mayk you smyl
I tuch the hart

#i lik the bred #my name is cow #poetry

15,898 notes



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While the creator of the poem has not commented on its success, they have re-created the structure of the poem in other Reddit posts.

[-] [Poem_for_your_sprog](#) 1969 points 2 months ago

my name is Dog,
and wen its tea,
i hope they giv
sum foode to me -
i hope they shair
befor its gon -
they never do.
i dont get non.

:(

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[-] [Poem_for_your_sprog](#) 1512 points 2 months ago

my name is Cow,
and this is tru -
my caynine frend,
its up to yu.
so just be brayve
and smart insted -
and be like me.
i lik the bred.

reddit.com

What is a famous Urban Legend of your country or town? by [Dwight-](#) in AskReddit

[-] [Poem_for_your_sprog](#) 1834 points 1 month ago

my name is Vlad,
and tymes haf change -
i think it sad.
i think it strange.
i can not work -
i dont no how.
i go on lyne.
i reddit now.

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Even in Spanish.

!ELP I turned AskReddit to Spanish. HOW DO I FIX IT?! by [UnobservantObserver](#) in AskReddit

[-] [Poem_for_your_sprog](#) 6683 points 18 days ago 🤔

mi nombra es Cow,
y cuando es noche,
o cuando la luna
está brillando brillante,
y todos los hombres
se han ido a la cama -
me quedo hasta tarde.
me lame el pan.

reddit.com



Rachael Krishna
BuzzFeed News Reporter

Rachael Krishna is a reporter for BuzzFeed News and is based in London.

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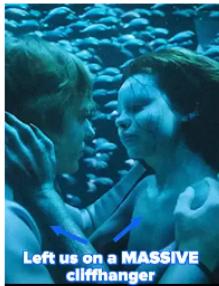
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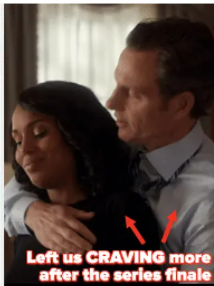
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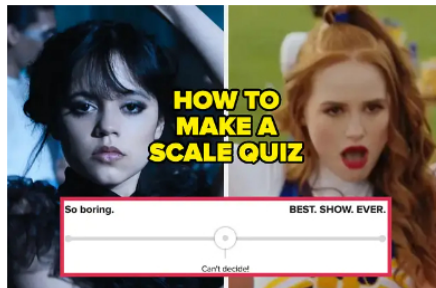
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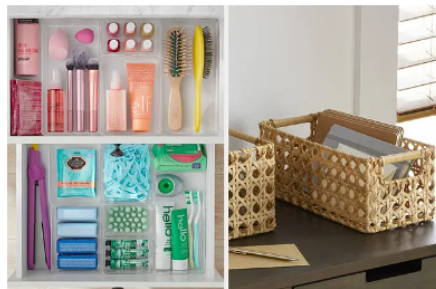
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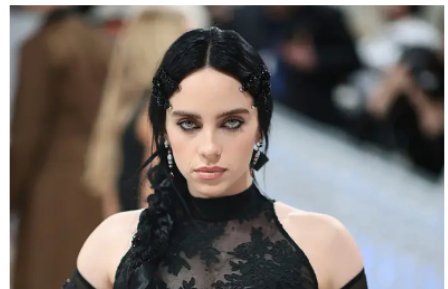
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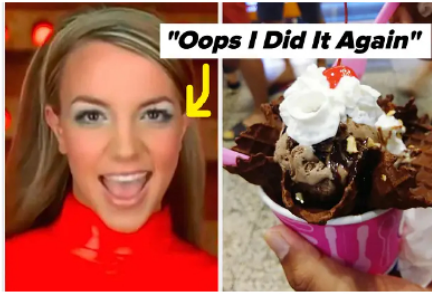


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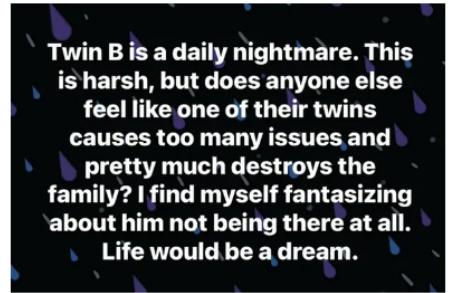
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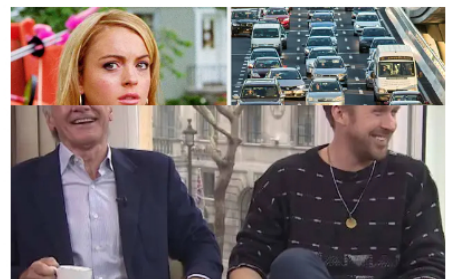
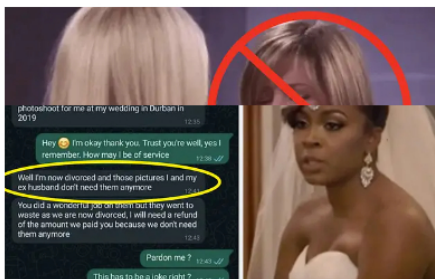


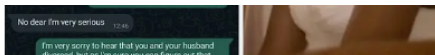
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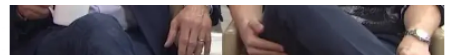




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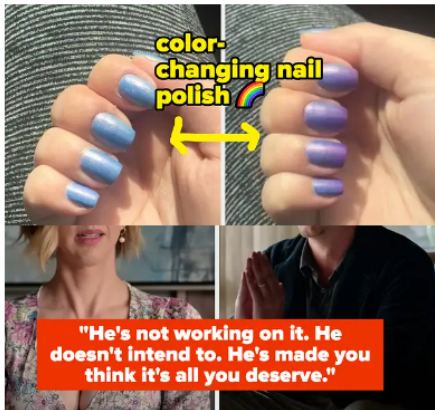
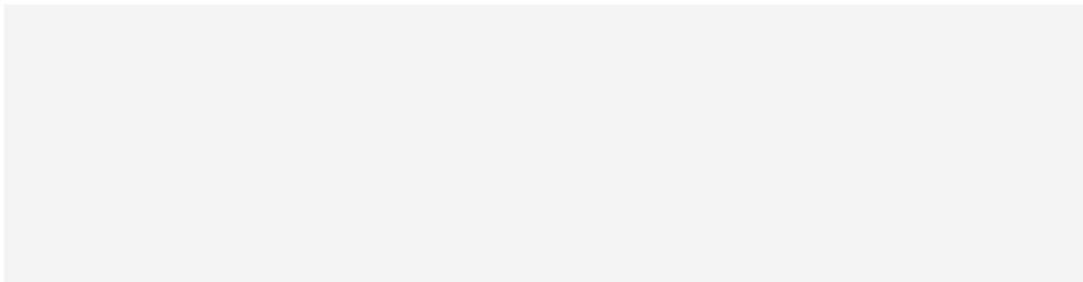


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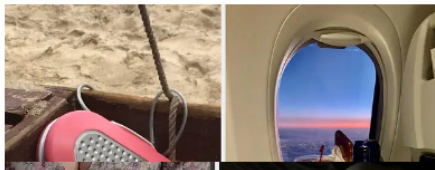
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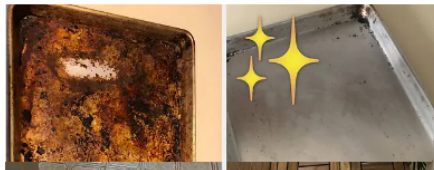
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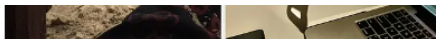


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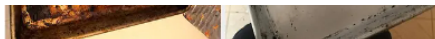


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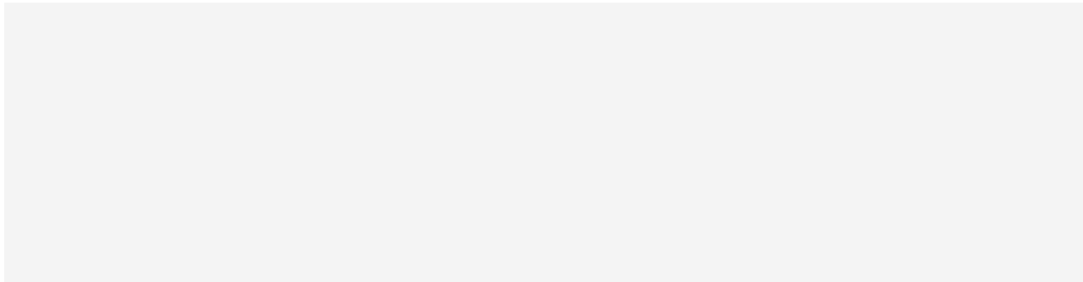


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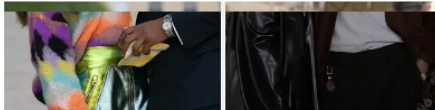


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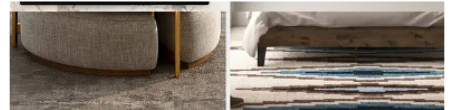
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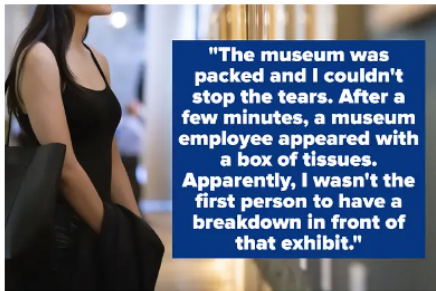
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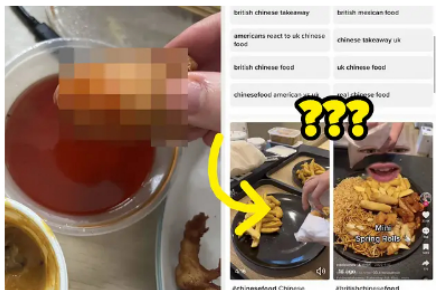
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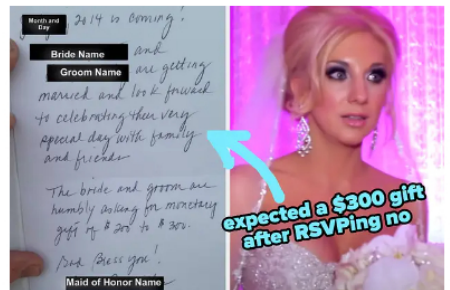
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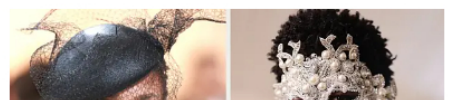
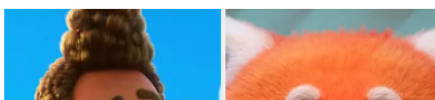
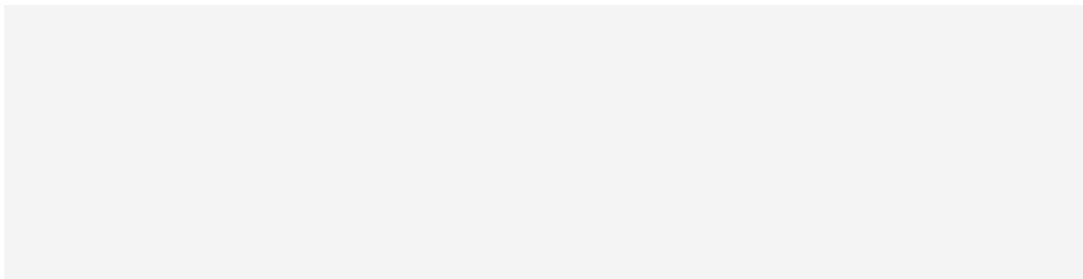


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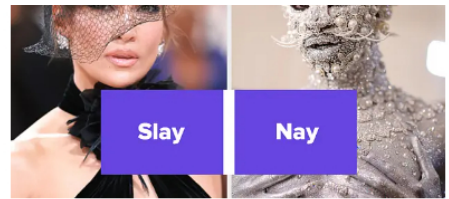




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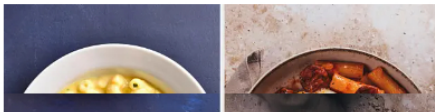
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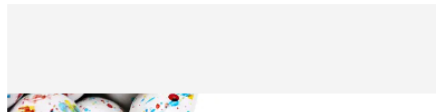
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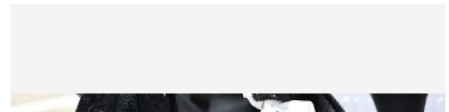
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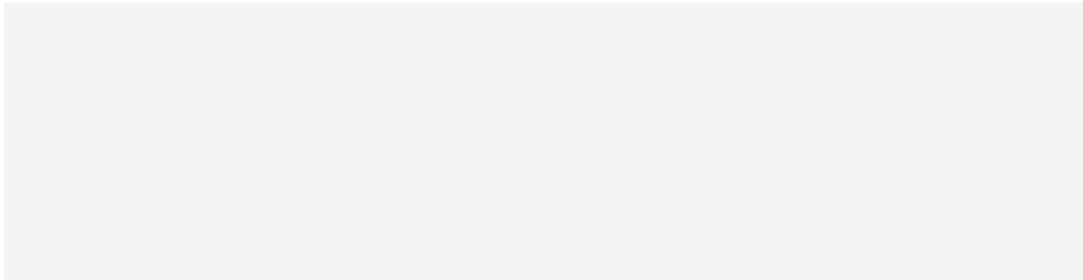


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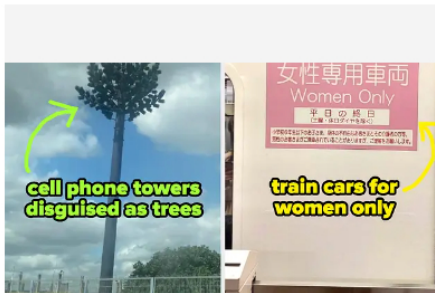


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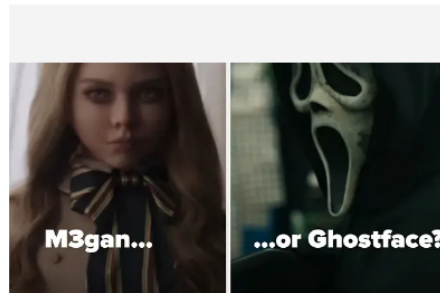
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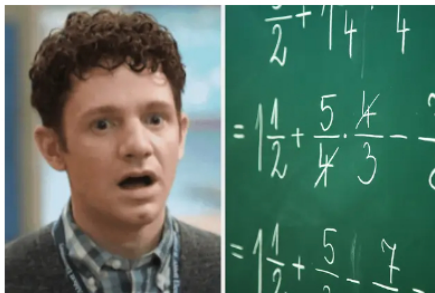
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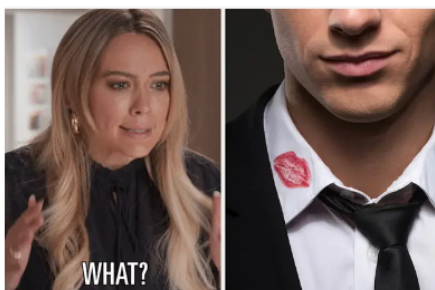
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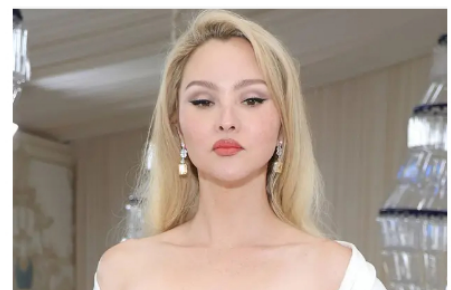
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